

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
IPC 7 A61K31/545 A61K9/14

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 99/44614 A (PARK JOON WOO ; CHUNG JONG KEUN (KR); KIM HAK HYOUNG (KR); LIM SANG HE) 10 September 1999 (1999-09-10) examples 1,3,5,7,9-14 -----	1-28
X	WO 99/62559 A (SHERMAN BERNARD CHARLES) 9 December 1999 (1999-12-09) examples -----	1-28
X	WO 99/08683 A (SHERMAN BERNARD CHARLES) 25 February 1999 (1999-02-25) examples -----	1-28
Y	US 4 865 851 A (ELLIOTT LEONARD G ET AL) 12 September 1989 (1989-09-12) cited in the application column 2, line 52 - column 3, line 32 examples -----	1-28
		-/-

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents :

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

\*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

\*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

\*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

\*&\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

14 December 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

22/12/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	WO 00/30647 A (RANEBURGER JOHANNES ; BIOCHEMIE GMBH (AT); JENNEWEIN HERWIG (AT)) 2 June 2000 (2000-06-02) page 4, line 9 - line 17 page 9, line 20 - line 31 page 12, line 3 - line 22 tables 1,2 -----	1-28
Y	WO 00/56286 A (SOMANI JITENDRA KRISHAN ; SEN HIMADRI (IN); BHUSHAN INDU (IN); RANBAXY) 28 September 2000 (2000-09-28) examples 1,2 -----	1-28

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.1

Although claim 28 is directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.

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Continuation of Box II.1

Claims Nos.: 28

Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by therapy

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Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: 1,18 partly; 2

Present independent claim 1 relates to an extremely large number of possible dry powder compositions of cefuroxime axetil, namely all those comprising a granulate containing: 1) the active, 2) "a lubricant", and 3) "a glidant", with no restriction or limitation as to the nature of the lubricant and the glidant. Support within the meaning of Article 6 PCT and/or disclosure within the meaning of Article 5 PCT is to be found, however, for only a very small proportion of said granulates, namely those wherein the lubricant is stearic acid and the glidant is colloidal SiO<sub>2</sub>. Other alternatives are not sufficiently disclosed in the application. It follows that claim 1 covers an area broader than justified by the extent of the disclosure and represents an undue generalisation. In particular, it is not shown/demonstrated in the application that the relevant technical problem (bioavailability) is also solved when the granulate comprises talc as glidant, or when it comprises other lubricants, as claimed in claims 5 and 7. In the present case, the claims so lack support and/or the application so lacks disclosure that a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope is impossible. Consequently, the search has been carried out for those parts of the claims which appear to be supported and disclosed, namely those parts relating to the subject-matter as defined above, i.e. claim 1 taken in combination with claim 16, in the sense of example 1.

It is the same for independent claim 18.

Claim 2 lacks clarity (Article 6 PCT). An attempt is made to define the composition by reference to the result to be achieved (bioavailability). Moreover, the definition used is a relative one established by comparison with a certain commercial composition. The lack of clarity in the present case is such as to render a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope impossible.

**FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210**

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/IB2004/002190

### Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1.  Claims Nos.: 28 because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:  
Although claim 28 is directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.
2.  Claims Nos.: 1,18 partly; 2 because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:  
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3.  Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

### Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this International application, as follows:

1.  As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2.  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3.  As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4.  No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

#### Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
WO 9944614	A 10-09-1999	AT 232728 T AU 3277899 A CA 2322432 A1 DE 69905452 D1 EP 1066040 A1 JP 2002505290 T WO 9944614 A1		15-03-2003 20-09-1999 10-09-1999 27-03-2003 10-01-2001 19-02-2002 10-09-1999
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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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